

inputting data;

identifying a user for whom the data inputted in the inputting step was

received;

transferring the data inputted in said inputting step to a terminal connected to

the LAN; and

generating a predetermined signal to notify the user that the data has been

transferred in the transferring step.

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 31, 2002. New Claims 23-27 are presented for examination, of which Claims 23, 26, and 27 are in independent form. Claim 1 has been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The Office Action states that the title of the invention is not descriptive. The title has been amended to read as follows: --DATA PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD THAT NOTIFIES A USER WHEN DATA IS TRANSFERRED--. Applicants respectfully submit that the title, as amended, is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

As required in the Office Action, the specification has been amended to identify the patent number of the U.S. application from which the present application claims domestic priority.

Claim 1 stands rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting, as being unpatentable over the claims of U.S. Patent No. 6,301,016, of which the present application is a division. Claim 1 also stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,027,386 (Hisano); and under § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,978,097 (Ueno). Cancellation of Claim 1 renders the rejections moot.

New Claims 23-27 correspond to non-elected Claims 31-34 and 39 of Group V, which were canceled from U.S. Application No. 08/352,883, which is the parent of the present application. Applicants submit that new independent Claims 23, 26, and 27, together with the claims dependent therefrom, are patentably distinct from the cited prior art for at least the following reasons.

The aspect of the present invention set forth in Claim 23 is directed to a data processing apparatus connectable to a LAN. The apparatus includes an input unit, an identification unit, a transfer unit, and a generation unit. The input unit inputs data, and the identification unit identifies a user for whom the inputted data was received. The transfer unit transfers the inputted data to a terminal connected to the LAN. The generation unit generates a predetermined signal to notify the user that the data has been transferred by the transfer unit.

Hisano, as understood by Applicants, relates to a system in which a plurality of facsimile machines are connected to a LAN. Apparently, Hisano teaches that, if a plotter of a facsimile machine fails, received image information is transferred to another facsimile machine having an operative plotter via the LAN.

Ueno, as understood by Applicants, relates to a facsimile apparatus with a data transfer function. Apparently, Ueno teaches that when the apparatus runs out of paper, data to be printed is temporarily stored in a memory of the apparatus ("substitute reception"), and then automatically transferred to another facsimile apparatus for printing.

Nothing has been found in either Hisano or Ueno that is believed to teach or suggest a data processing apparatus that includes "a transfer unit adapted to transfer the data inputted by said input unit to a terminal connected to the LAN," and "a generation unit adapted to generate a predetermined signal to notify the user that the data has been transferred by said transfer unit," as recited in Claim 23. Both Hisano and Ueno are believed to be silent regarding a notification such as that of Claim 23.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claim 23 is patentable over Hisano and Ueno, considered separately or in combination. Independent Claims 26 and 27 are method and storage medium claims corresponding to Claim 23, and are believed to be patentable for at least the same reasons as discussed above.

The other claims in this application depend from Claim 23 and, therefore, also are submitted to be patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, individual consideration of the patentability of each claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

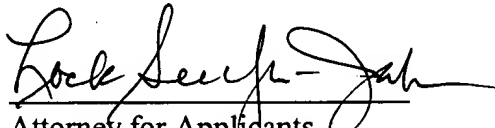
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

No petition to extend the time for response to the Office Action is deemed

necessary for the present Amendment. If, however, such a petition is required to make this Amendment timely filed, then this paper should be considered such a petition and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite petition fee to Deposit Account 06-1205.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

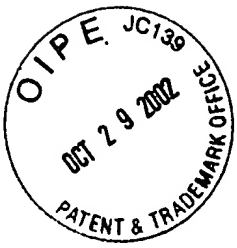
Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO SPECIFICATION

The first paragraph on page 1 located immediately after the title, which was added in the Preliminary Amendment submitted on July 20, 2001, has been amended as follows:

--This application is a division of Application No. 08/352,883, filed on December 9, 1994, now U.S. Patent No. 6,301,016.--

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